



Atty. Dkt. No. 056859-0189

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arun Kumar SINHA *et al.*

Title: DDQ MEDIATED ONE STEP  
DIMERISATION OF BETA-ASARONE  
OR BETA-ASARONE RICH ACORUS  
CALAMUS OIL IN THE FORMATION OF  
NOVEL NEOLIGNAN

Appl. No.: 10/660,556

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Examiner: Keyes, Rosalynd Ann

Art Unit: 1621

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 19, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 11 of this document.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this document.

**Amendments to the Specification**

**Abstract**

Please replace the abstract with the following.

The present invention relates to a novel neolignan (NEOLASA-I) 3-ethyl-2-methyl-3-(2", 4", 5"-trimethoxy-phenyl-1-(2',4',5'-trimethoxy) phenyl-1-(2',4',5' trimethoxy)phenyl-1-propene and a process for the preparation of high purity, higher yield neolignan,  $\alpha$ -asarone, 2,4,5-trimethoxy-phenyl propionone from  $\beta$ -asarone or  $\beta$ -asarone rich *Acorus calamus* oil containing  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  - asarone by hydrogenating and dimerizing by treatment with DDQ in presence of an organic acid.